

Application No. 09/878,050
Amendment dated February 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 19, 2003

REMARKS

Summary of Telephone Conversation With the Examiner

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the December 1, 2003 telephone interview.

During the interview, the Examiner confirmed that, contrary to the statement in Section 15 of the Office Action, claims 124-138, 277-291, and 307-336 are indeed allowed and claims 139-153 and 292-306 remain rejected. This is consistent with the rest of the Office Action (See Allowable Subject Matter, Section 13 of the Office Action, pages 7-8; see also Form PTO-326 mailed with the Final Office Action).

Summary of Office Action

Claims 124-153 and 277-336 are pending in this case.

Claims 124-138, 277-291, and 307-336 are allowed.

The Examiner rejected claims 139-153 and 292-306 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Knowles U.S. Patent 6,321,991 (hereinafter "Knowles").

The Examiner objected to various claims because certain elements of those claims lack proper antecedent basis.

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Applicants' Reply

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 124-138, 277-291, and 307-336.

Applicants hereby cancel claims 139-153 and 292-306. The errors based on antecedence in claims 139-141, 293, and 294 are therefore moot.

Claims 125, 278, 279, 308, 323, and 324 have been amended to correct errors based on antecedence. Applicants respectfully submit that there are no longer errors based on antecedence in these claims. The amendments add no new matter and are fully supported by the specification.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 308 and 309 should not be amended to change "a user" to "the user" in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion because applicants believe that such a change would result in lack of antecedence. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 308 and 309 on this ground be withdrawn.

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Conclusion

The foregoing demonstrates that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request prompt reconsideration and allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Jared Kneitel
Registration No. 51,178
Agent for Applicants
FISH & NEAVE
Customer No. 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020
Tel.: (212) 596-9384